

Kalispel Tribal Land Re-Designation to Class 1

Public Comment of (b) (6)

April 11, 2017

I'm writing today to lend support for the proposed re-designation of Tribal Land from Class II to Class I but I'd also like to address the citizen concerns voiced at the public hearing of 4/10 at the Camas Center.

Because the re-designation increases the footprint of oversight on areas outside the Tribal boundaries, and because any fixed source of pollution outside Tribal land that might have been allowed under Class II will not necessarily be allowed under Class I, there is concern in population that prospective employers might be put-off and take their business elsewhere.

As I understand what I heard last night, to site a business in relative proximity to the Kalispel Tribal land, any potential business would be required to better-control (under Class 1) that fixed plants' emissions.

So if such a business produces pollution, the Class 1 designation would require the business exert more control over any harm to the air or water.

I'm fine with that.

The human toll of finding employment in or near Pend Oreille County should not cost citizens their health and should not compromise anyone's ability to enjoy a rural lifestyle, to hunt, fish, farm and raise their families in a safe environment.

Employers we'd welcome to operate nearby wouldn't ask we sacrifice clean air or water. The employers we would want would be good neighbors, partners in protecting natural resources.

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